

GEORGIA MOUNTAINS REGIONAL COMMISSION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Camp Glisson  
Dahlonega, GA  
October 29, 2015

MINUTES

The GMRC Executive Committee met on Thursday, October 29, 2015, 5:00 p.m. at Camp Glisson in Dahlonega, Georgia. The meeting was hosted by Lumpkin County and City of Dahlonega.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Dean Scarborough called the meeting to order and thanked everyone for attending. The following members were present:

Executive Committee Present

Dean Scarborough, Chairman  
James Grogan, Vice-Chairman  
Mike Berg  
Bill Black  
Bill Chafin  
Jim Conley  
Rex Farmer  
Leslie George  
J.B. Jones  
Sam Norton  
Lamar Paris  
George Wangemann

GMRC Staff Present

W. Danny Lewis, Executive Director  
Peggy Lovell, Executive Assistant  
Becky Sievers, Finance Director  
Kevin Tallant, Attorney

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Chairman Scarborough asked for consideration of the minutes of the September 24, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion for approval of the minutes was made by Rex Farmer, seconded by Bill Black, and motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS

Chairman's Report

Chairman Scarborough reported that he attend the GMRC Staff Retreat/Photo Day. He commended the Regional Commission staff for all that they do for the region.

## Executive Director's Report

Executive Director Danny Lewis reported that he had previously asked for hosts for the 2016 Regional Commission Council Meetings. He excitingly reported that the 2016 Council Meetings calendar has been filled. He thanked the cities and counties for stepping up and hosting one of our meetings.

The GMRC have been covered up with auditors for the last few months. The Department of Audit and Accounts auditors were previously in our office for approximately three weeks doing their preliminary audit work. This past month, auditors from Rushton and Company have been in our office working on the 2015 Financial Audit. Mr. Lewis thanked Becky Sievers and her staff for the great job they have done with the financial audit.

The staff retreat and photo day was held at The Links Golf Course in Toccoa. Chairman Scarborough, Gary Fesperman, and David Austin took time out of their busy schedules to join us for the day. Thanks to Billy Morse and the City of Toccoa for allowing the RC to use the Golf Course and Pro Shop for photo purposes.

City and County Managers will be meeting at The Links Golf Course on November 17<sup>th</sup>. Billy Morse and the City of Toccoa will be hosting this meeting.

### Checks that Exceed \$25,000

The Executive Committee was informed there were five checks written during the month of October which exceeded the amount of \$25,000.

GMEBS (Health, Dental, Life Ins.)  
Quantum Spatial (Aerial/LiDAR Project)  
University of North Georgia – Tuition (WD)  
North Georgia Tech – Tuition (WD)  
North Georgia Tech – Books (WD)

### OLD BUSINESS

#### Annual Meeting Report

Leslie George, Annual Meeting Committee Chair, reported that the Committee is finalizing the arrangements for the December 4<sup>th</sup> event. The “Blue Christmas” theme and entertainment have been decided. The reception will begin at 4:45 with dinner at 6:00 and strive to be finished by 9:00. The tickets will remain at \$40 again this year, but this will not cover the cost of the entertainment and other expenses. Each Council Member was encouraged to secure at least one sponsor for this event. The Committee will be meeting with the manager of the entertainment.

### NEW BUSINESS

#### 2015 GMRC Financial Audit

Bill Chafin, Audit Committee Chairman, discussed with the Executive Committee that in this year's Audit there is one non-compliance finding noted. This finding is due to the fact that when

the new bank accounts were set up, the bank failed to collateralize the funds. The bank admitted their mistake and we have a letter on file stating this. This was no fault on the RC's part. The bank was informed when setting up these accounts that these were public funds and must be collateralized. The RC Finance Department found the error and reported it immediately to the bank. Mr. Chafin stated that this is the only finding that the RC has had in 10 years. Even though it was not an RC error it still had to be reported in the Audit.

Sam Norton made a motion to move the 2016 Audit on to the Council for their review. Leslie George seconded the motion and motion carried unanimously. The Audit will be emailed to the Council for their review tomorrow.

#### DOAA Audit

Sam Norton informed the Executive Committee that the RC had received the draft Audit from the Department of Accounts and Audits. In the Audit, he stated that the auditors found some things that needed to be fixed, some things were suggested to be done a different way, and some items that the RC have already changed. He discussed some of the findings in the report and how the RC has handled them. The Regional Commission has sent their response on the findings back to DOAA. The final Audit should be sent by DOAA to the Council Members by the end of the month.

#### Friends of Georgia Mountains 501(c)(3)

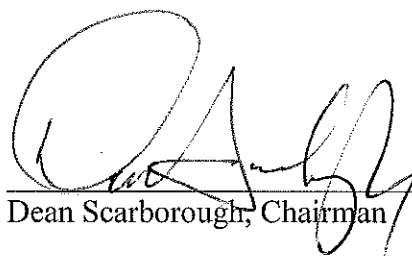
Mr. Lewis thanked Kevin Tallant for all the work that he and Wendy Kraby with Miles, Patterson, and Tallant, LLC had done on setting up a 501(c)(3) for the Friends of Georgia Mountains. This account handles all the funds received for the GMRC Annual Meeting. Mr. Tallant reported that he has forms with him that need to be signed in order to submit the application. The application will be filed and hopefully finalized before the December 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS

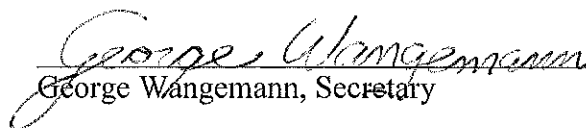
The October Council Meeting will be sponsored by City of Dawsonville at the City Hall.

#### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:50 pm.



Dean Scarborough, Chairman



George Wangemann, Secretary